

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 L-03 SS-20 NSC-10 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /067 R

66605

DRAFTED BY: DOD/JAG: LT. COL. NRTHORPE:EA/PHL:MMEASTON

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R 141522Z JAN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA

INFO DOD

13AF CLARK AB PHIL

MAC SCOTT AFB ILL

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HAWAII

CINCPACREPPHIL

CINCPACFLT

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.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, ETRN, EFIN, US, RP

SUBJ: NORTHWEST AIRLINES CLAIM FOR TAX REIMBURSEMENT

1. NORTHWEST AIRLINES WAS REQUESTED BY U.S. MILITARY
AUTHORITIES TO PROVIDE MAC CHARTER AIRCRAFT TO TRANSPORT A
NUMBER OF FILIPINO U.S. NAVY RECRUITS FROM PHILIPPINES TO
U.S. NORTHWEST AIRLINES MADE COUNTER OFFER TO CARRY ENTIRE
GROUP ON AVAILABLE SCHEDULED NWA FLIGHT IN ACCORDANCE
EXISTING CATEGORY A ARRANGEMENTS. SINCE PASSENGERS WERE
FILIPINO NATIONALS, BTTI REQUIRED CARRIER TO REMIT DEPARTURE
TAX. CARRIER EFFORTS TO OBTAIN EXEMPTION FAILED. SUBSEQUENT
EFFORTS TO OBTAIN REIMBURSEMENT FROM BTTI HAVE ALSO BEEN
UNSUCCESSFUL. NORTHWEST AIRLINES STATES MANILA MANA-
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GER CAN DOCUMENT EFFORTS TO AVOID PAYMENT AND OBTAIN REFUND.

2. IN VIEW FAILURE TO OBTAIN REFUND OF TAXES PAID IN AMOUNT APPROXIMATELY DOLS 3,000, NWA REQUESTED REIMBURSEMENT FROM USAF, AND CONTRACTING OFFICERS HAVE CLAIM UNDER CONSIDERATION. AMOUNT IN QUESTION COULD BECOME DIRECT BURDEN ON USG IN EVENT CARRIER IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT. IF NOT, CARRIER WILL HAVE SUFFERED UNEXPECTED LOSS IN CONNECTION WITH EFFORT TO ACCOMMODATE USG OFFICIAL TRAVELERS. IN EITHER CASE, DEPARTMENT AND DEFENSE BELIEVE EMBASSY SHOULD APPROACH GOP WITH VIEW TO OBTAINING REFUND. FAILURE TO OBTAIN REFUND MAY UNDERSIRABLY COMPLICATE PROGRAM OF RECRUITING FILIPINOS INTO U.S. ARMED FORCES AND *OULD CREATE SERIOUS INCONVENIENCE FOR OTHER OFFICIAL USG TRAVELERS.

3. REQUEST EMBASSY'S VIEWS ON UTILITY INFORMING GOP USG DOES NOT CONCUR WITH IMPOSITIONOF DEPARTURE TAX ON USG OFFICIAL TRAVELERS, AND UTLITY IN SEEKING GOP AGREEMENT TO MECHANISM WHICH WILL PROVIDE RELIEF FROM THE TAXES IN QUESTION. EMBASSY MAY FIND IT USEFUL TO CONSULT WTIH MILITARY TRANSPORTATION OFFICERS AND NWA MANILA MANAGER TO OBTAIN PRECISE INFO CONCERNING PASSENGERS STATUS AND AMOUNTS IN DISPUTE IN PRESENT CLAIM. CINCPACREPPHIL MAY ALSO BE ABLE TO ESTIMATE IMPACT OF TAX ON OTHER USG OFFICIAL TRAVELERS INCLUDING MILITARY DEPENDENTS. RUSH

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